

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 1, 2021

The Honorable Robert P. Storch
Inspector General
National Security Agency
9800 Savage Rd., Suite 6247
Ft. George G. Meade, MD 20755

Dear Mr. Storch:

On June 28, 2021, journalist Tucker Carlson reported that a government whistleblower had alerted him that the National Security Agency (NSA) has been monitoring his electronic communications.¹ According to the whistleblower, there was a plan to leak the electronic communications to silence Mr. Carlson.² Mr. Carlson disclosed how the whistleblower possessed nonpublic information that could only have come from his private electronic communications.³ Mr. Carlson said “the NSA captured that information without our knowledge and did it for political reasons.”⁴

On June 29, the NSA issued a carefully worded statement in response to Mr. Carlson’s disclosure.⁵ The NSA called the disclosure “untrue,” alleging that Mr. Carlson “has never been an intelligence *target*” and “the NSA has never had any plans to take his program off the air” (emphasis added).⁶ The NSA, however, did not deny that it had collected Mr. Carlson’s communications *without* targeting him.

Mr. Carlson’s disclosures about the NSA’s actions are serious and the NSA’s elusive response demands further inquiry. We ask that the OIG immediately review whether the NSA collected, possessed, or obtained Mr. Carlson’s electronic communications and report to the Committee about this matter. To ensure public transparency about this issue, we request that you conduct this review in an unclassified manner to the greatest extent possible. If a full response requires the disclosure of classified information, please provide such information under separate cover.

¹ *Tucker Carlson Tonight* (Fox News broadcast June 28, 2021).

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Tweet by @NSAGov, Twitter.com (Jun 29, 2021, 8:00 p.m., <https://twitter.com/NSAGov/status/1410025399032193027>).

⁶ *Id.*

The Honorable Robert P. Storch

July 1, 2021

Page 2

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary



James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler, Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman, Committee on Oversight and Reform